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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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AUGUST 27

1. WISH TO INVITE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO AUG 26 NHAN DAN ARTICLE ON SVN SEPT 11 ELECTIONS CARRIED VNA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH (FBIS OKINAWA B260758). HANOI AGAIN CHARACTERIZED ELECTIONS AS "FRAUD FROM BEGINNING TO END," AND DERIDED CLAIMS OF EXPECTED TURNOUT AND VOTER PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS SINCE, ACCORDING TO NHAN DAN, ONLY FOUR MILLION PEOPLE LIVE IN GVN AREAS OF SVN.

2. HOWEVER, STYLE IN WHICH NHAN DAN ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN USING VARIETY OF U.S. NEWSPAPERS AND WIRE SERVICES AS ATTRIBUTED SOURCES WAS MOST CLEVER MANEUVER BY HANOI, AND AS SUCH, ARTICLE APPEARS TO BE AIMED AT U.S. PUBLIC IN ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT GVN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. LODGE
BT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR 10/5/81
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